

# World Turned Dark

*Incident*  
THE SEP 19 1964

"If you give me one last wish, bury me with my last love, Liz."

That note was a lover's farewell to a world turned dark yesterday when his sweetheart died in his arms at the University of California's Davis campus.

Scant hours later, at 8:02 last night, he leaped to his death off the Bay Bridge.

The romance of Elizabeth Busch, 20, of Lafayette, and Max Ostermiller, 23, began last year at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

But Elizabeth disliked Utah's snow-bound winters and this semester enrolled at Davis.

She was a sophomore psychology major.

Ostermiller was visiting Elizabeth yesterday at her rooming house across from the Davis campus when she was stricken, apparently from food poisoning.



ELIZABETH BUSCH

He called for help and began giving her mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. But at 4:30 p.m. she was dead.

Authorities suspect a hamburger she had eaten earlier was tainted but definite word must await an autopsy.

Elizabeth, a graduate of Acalanes High School, was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Busch, of 910 Carl Road, Lafayette. Busch, well-known in Contra Costa County music circles, has been a teacher at Acalanes High School for the past 20 years.

Ostermiller lived at 2436 Olympus Drive, Salt Lake City.

Elizabeth also is survived by a sister, Mrs. Julianne Young of San Jose, and two brothers, Nicholas and Gregory of Lafayette.

# Car Hints Leap Off Bay Bridge

*suicide*

JAN 22 1964

A car registered to a 40-year-old San Jose warehouseman was found abandoned on the Bay Bridge about 5:30 a.m. today. It contained an unsigned note indicating the driver may have jumped into the Bay.

The California Highway Patrol said the car is registered to Darrell Eli Holman, of 278 Terraine Ave.

A Coast Guard search found no body. The vehicle was found in the eastbound deck of the bridge, on the San Francisco side of Yerba Buena Island.

# Span Suicide Identified As Airman

THE NOV 9 - 1964

A man who became the 276th known suicide off the Golden Gate Bridge on Saturday has been tentatively identified as an airman from Mather Field.

The identification of Airman 1-c Edward K. Smith, 30, was made via telephone by his wife who gave authorities a description that matched that of the victim.

Smith had been undergoing psychiatric treatment and had threatened suicide, according to his wife, who lives at 4840 Trinity Court, Sacramento.

The body was recovered about 40 minutes after two women saw him leap to his death at 12:40 p.m. Saturday.

The body of a second suicide victim, who jumped to his death off the Bay Bridge Saturday, was recovered at Treasure Island last night.

He was James P. Harding, 44, a cab driver from Morgan Hill.

Harding's leap also was witnessed by passing motorists, after he stopped his car just east of Yerba Buena Island and vaulted the railing.

# 2 Men Die

## TR 56 NOV 8 - 1964 In Leap Off Bay Bridge

Two men leaped off Bay Area bridges Saturday.

An unidentified man about 40, a Negro clad mostly in black, was seen going over the pedestrian rail of the Golden Gate bridge in mid-afternoon.

Debra Cornwell and Carolyn Judy, both 25, of 2124 Hyde St., San Francisco, alerted the California Highway Patrol, and the Coast Guard recovered the body 40 minutes later.

The victim was the 276th known suicide to leap from the famed span.

Later in the day, witnesses reported that a man pulled his 1955 Cadillac to a stop just east of Yerba Buena Island on the Oakland-San Francisco Bay Bridge and leaped over the rail.

The car was registered to a James P. Harding of Palo Alto, but early efforts by police to establish contact with the Harding family were unsuccessful.

# Recovered Body May Be Man Who Followed Girl in Death

A body believed to be that of a man who jumped to his death from the Bay Bridge a few hours after his sweetheart died in his arms has been recovered from the Bay.

The personal effects of Max William Ostermiller, 23, of Salt

Lake City, has been identified, but positive identification of the body has been deferred.

The body was recovered by the Coast Guard yesterday afternoon on a sandspit 200 yards offshore, near the end of Third Street in Alameda.

Ostermiller is believed to have

jumped to his death from the bridge Sept. 18, after leaving a note saying, "If you give me one last wish, bury me with my last love, Liz."

"Liz" was Elizabeth Busch, 20, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Busch, of 910 Carl Road, Lafayette. She died in Oster-

Oakland  Tribune Tues., Sept. 29, 1964 D 3

miller's arms Sept. 18 at her rooming house near the campus of the University of California at Davis, where she was a student.

Her death was first believed to be from food poisoning, but this theory was later discounted.

Pending the findings of special tests by pathologists the cause of death is still unknown.

Ostermiller had been visiting Miss Busch, who was his first cousin and whom he had known all his life.



## **Man's Body Found Under Bay Bridge**

A Coast Guard search, prompted by motorists' reports of a man walking along the Bay Bridge upper deck, today found the body of an unidentified man in the waters beneath the span.

It was not known if he jumped from the bridge, but the Highway Patrol earlier found an abandoned automobile in the westbound lanes just west of Treasure Island.

Patrolmen were alerted at 11:30 a.m. by the motorists. Coast Guard vessels then began a search in the Bay and found the body at 12:30 p.m.

**TRE NOV 4 - 1964**

TRE NOV 5 - 1964

## Cerritan's Span Suicide Case Probed

El Cerrito cabinet maker of 3317 Carlson Blvd., was reportedly became so despondent over his involvement in a police investigation that he took his own life.

Body of Andy F. Call, 59, of 3317 Carlson Blvd., was recovered shortly after he leaped from the Bay Bridge yesterday.

Bridge painters saw Call's parked car in the westbound lanes just west of Treasure Is-

land.

Then they spotted his body in the water under the bridge and called the Coast Guard.

Mrs. Frances Call, the dead man's widow, said he had been

despondent for some time over his involvement in a misdemeanor investigation by the El Cerrito Police.

El Cerrito police later said the charges against Call were unsubstantiated.

"He was supposed to go to the police station yesterday for a lie

detector test, but they couldn't take him," she said.

"His last words to me as he went out in the morning were 'I may as well jump off the bridge' but I didn't think he would do it."

Call left a note saying he was despondent over drinking and

the investigation.

Mrs. Call said her husband was phoned by police on Halloween night and asked to come to the station for questioning.

She said her husband has worked as a cabinet maker for Bethlehem Shipyards for the past 15 years.

He was born in N. Y. and spent some time in the Navy before settling here.

## Zippering Jets

At cruising speed, jet passengers travel more than one mile within the time it takes to inhale and exhale twice.

# Body of Span

## Leaper Found, *Suicide* Hunt Second

A Coast Guard cutter recovered the body of a 42-year-old man, attired in work clothes, from San Francisco Bay off Alameda this afternoon. The man is believed to be one who apparently jumped to his death from the Bay Bridge, where a car was found abandoned.

The Coast Guard continued a search for the body of a young man who reportedly leaped off the Golden Gate Bridge a few hours before the Bay Bridge leap.

The Bay Bridge victim's body was staken to Fort Point Rescue Station and turned over to the San Francisco coroner's office. Crewmen found the body between the Estuary and Alameda Naval Air Station.

The first search began in the cold waters under the Golden Gate after a pedestrian disappeared from mid-span. A California Highway Patrolman first spotted him, but by the time the officer could turn his car around to return and question him, the man had disappeared.

The second Coast Guard boat was dispatched about four hours later when an abandoned auto was found on the Bay Bridge, 500 feet east of the Yerba Buena Tunnel, at 4:30 a.m.

Highway patrolmen said the auto was registered to Herbert T. Miles, 48, of 1538 Jacobson St., Antioch. Antioch police have not been able to locate Miles at his home.



# Car on

DEC 30 1964

# Bay Span

# -Suicide?

A car belonging to a woman the California Highway Patrol believes may be a Bay Bridge suicide was found parked on the bridge east of Yerba Buena Island shortly before midnight.

The car is registered to Joan Rogers, 26, a secretary of 6007 Orchard Drive, Richmond.

Highly upset from an unknown cause, she left her home without explanation about 10:45 p.m. yesterday, driving off in the car, according to Richmond police.

Officers said she is the mother of three children.

Mrs. Francis G. Conway, 50, the missing woman's housekeeper, told police that Mrs. Rogers returned home about 8 p.m. yesterday in a distraught condition.

She refused to discuss whatever was troubling her and stayed in her room until she left the house several hours later.

Police searched her room and found an envelope dated Dec. 29, 1964 and titled: "My last and only will."

Coast Guard patrol boats searched the waters beneath the bridge for an hour after the empty car was found.

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## Unidentified Man Leaps Off Bay Span

An unidentified man jumped mid-span from the ~~San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge~~ at 1:20 p.m. today and the Coast Guard recovered his body about 30 minutes later.

The California Highway Patrol said the man, who was not immediately identified, parked his auto on the lower level and leaped over the railing.

The body was taken to the San Francisco Coroner's Office.

# Man Leaps to His Death From Bridge

*Suicide*

Henry Harlan Weber, 41, a graduate industrial engineer from the University of California in 1954, leaped to his death yesterday from the San Francisco - Oakland Bay bridge.

The body was recovered by the Coast Guard. Identification was made by Weber's pastor, the Rev. Burton Smith of Millbrae.

Weber, of Millbrae, had been a patient at the San Mateo Community Hospital where psychiatrists said he had been depressed, according to the San Francisco coroner's office.

Weber leaves a wife, Joyce. Keo Kessler, a bridge painter, said he saw a car stop in an eastbound lane just west of Treasure Island and the driver run to the wall and jump.

Still unidentified is the body of a man found Tuesday in a moat beneath the south tower of the Golden Gate Bridge.

# Believed

TR ~~G~~ MAY 12 1965

## Wife of

## U.C. Prof

*Quinn*

A woman believed to be the wife of a brilliant University of California chemistry professor leaped to her death from the San Francisco - Oakland Bay Bridge today.

The California Highway patrol tentatively identified her as Mary Ann Streitwieser, 37, of 1160 Miller Ave., Berkeley, from a driver's license in the abandoned car.

The CHP said the car was stopped in the westbound lanes of the upper deck. The woman went over the edge, landing on the concrete base of the fifth tower.

The Coast Guard was summoned to take the body to San Francisco to turn it over to the San Francisco coroner. There were no notes in the car.

University of California officials said Dr. Andrew Streitwieser Jr. lives at the Miller Ave. address. Last Oct. he won one of the American Chemical Society's highest awards for "outstanding contributions to organic chemistry," from the society's California section.

# 371 Have

# Died in

# Span Leaps

People jump off San Francisco Bay bridges at an alarming rate — 292 known suicides from the Golden Gate and 79 from the Bay Bridge in the past 29 years.

This information was contained in a study financed by a federal grant from the National Institutes of Mental Health.

Dr. Richard H. Seiden, assistant in the Behavioral Science Research Unit of the University of California School of Public Health, headed the project.

The grim study went into "suspicious" cases, as well as those who have been known to have attempted suicide and those who have achieved their sad goal by plunging to their deaths.

At least 230 men and women have been restrained from leaping from the Golden Gate and another nine have been saved from a death plunge from the Bay Bridge.

Dr. Seiden said his major goal is the establishment of a suicide prevention center, similar to one in Los Angeles County, where an around-the-clock telephone service is manned by trained people who will aid people going through immediate emotional crises.

He believes many auto fatalities could be the result of a suicidal urge.

Myths about suicidal behavior also can be exploded through education, he believes, such as the widely held theory that suicides "don't talk about it."

The research project has been under way since last December Dr. Seiden said.